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International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

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Agenda item 9
Adoption of the final outcomes of the International Meeting

Draft report of the Main Committee

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Draft strategy for the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

1. At its __ meeting, on __ January, the Main Committee approved the following changes to the text of the draft strategy for the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and recommended them to the International Meeting for adoption.

2. In paragraph 85, new subparagraphs (d) to (h) were inserted, reading:

85. (d) Development of capacity to monitor the state of their environment, economies and social and cultural institutions to define and further develop their national priorities and meet international obligations; [agreed]

(e) Involvement of youth in envisioning sustainable island living and improving the capacity of civil society to enable them fully to contribute to sustainable development; [agreed]

(f) Establishment and strengthening of centres of excellence for training and applied research within existing national and regional institutions; [agreed]

(g) Enhancing the delivery of coordinated, effective and targeted trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building programmes for small island developing States, including taking advantage of existing and future market access opportunities, and examining the relationship between trade, environment and development; [agreed]

(h) Facilitating the development of human resources and institutional capacity within small island developing States for the implementation of the obligations of multilateral environmental agreements. [agreed]

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3. In Chapter XX, section D, paragraphs 86 to 89, under subheadings 1 and 2, were replaced with the following:

1. National enabling environment

87. Good governance is essential for sustainable development. Sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation. Freedom, peace and security, domestic stability, respect for human rights, including the right to development, and the rule of law, gender equality, market-oriented policies and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies are also essential and mutually reinforcing. [agreed]

88. Small island developing States commit themselves, with the necessary support of the international community, to continue the following:

(a) Mobilizing resources at the national level to meet the sustainable development goals and priorities articulated in the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

(b) Developing national sustainable development strategies, including nationally owned poverty reduction strategies and sectoral policies and strategies;

(c) Developing and strengthening their legislative, administrative and institutional structures;

(d) Increasing awareness and involvement of relevant stakeholders in the implementation of sustainable development programmes;

(e) Promoting an enabling environment for investment and technology and enterprise development, including small and medium-size enterprises, for sustainable development through appropriate policies for regulatory frameworks in a manner consistent with national laws and circumstances to foster a dynamic, well-functioning business sector, while recognizing that the appropriate role of government in market-oriented economies will vary from country to country;

(f) Engaging corporate and other private-sector actors in sustainable development;

(g) Promoting public/private partnerships. [agreed]

2. International enabling environment

89. Good governance at the international level is fundamental for achieving sustainable development. In order to ensure a dynamic and enabling international economic environment, it is important to promote global economic governance through addressing the international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have an impact on the development prospects of developing countries. To this effect, the international community should take all necessary and appropriate measures, including ensuring support for structural and macroeconomic reform, a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem and increasing market access for developing countries.

Efforts to reform the international financial architecture need to be sustained with greater transparency and the effective participation of developing countries in decision-making processes. A universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, as well as meaningful trade liberalization, can substantially stimulate development worldwide, benefiting countries at all stages of development. [agreed]

4. Before paragraphs 94 and 95, the headings were redesignated, respectively, as follows:

E. Monitoring and evaluation

F. Role for the United Nations in the further implementation of the Programme of Action

5. Paragraphs 96 to 98 were replaced with the following:

96. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is requested to fully mobilize and coordinate the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, including at the level of the regional economic commissions, within their respective mandates, and further mainstream small island developing States issues to facilitate coordinated implementation in the follow-up of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States at the national, regional, subregional and global levels. The Secretary-General is requested to include, in his report to the sixtieth session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the Programme of Action, information on progress in this regard. [agreed]

97. The Secretary-General is further requested to ensure that the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, through its Small Island Developing States Unit, continues to provide substantive support and advisory services to small island developing States for the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and that the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States continues to mobilize international support and resources for the further implementation of the Programme of Action in accordance with its mandate. [agreed]

6. Before paragraph 100, the heading should be redesignated as follows:

G. Role of small island developing States regional institutions for monitoring and implementation